

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/725,172

Examiner

Thomas Price

Applicant(s)

BISHOP, LAWRENCE

Art Unit

3643

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to a telephone interview on 3-21-2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 23-36.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 27 January 2005 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date hereto.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.


Thomas Price
Primary Examiner GAU: 3643

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Lykes on 03-21-2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel claims 9-22 without prejudice.

AMENDED CLAIMS

23. (New claim) Ramp apparatus for facilitating the movement of a pet up to and down from the surface of a bed, the apparatus comprising:

a ramp member of sufficient length to extend from a point near the surface of a bed down to the floor at an angle suitable for permitting easy movement up or down by a pet;

said ramp member having, at its upper end, hinge apparatus for pivotally joining and securing said ramp member to a platform, said hinge apparatus allowing said ramp member to be supported by said platform,

said platform being further supported at a height near the height of an adjacent bed by an elbow joint apparatus which may be secured to a leg or other stable portion of the frame of an adjacent bed;

said elbow joint apparatus further comprising an upper elbow member, said upper member extending up to support the lower surface of said platform, a joining elbow member, said joining elbow member receiving the lower end of said upper elbow member and turning through an angle of about 90 degrees, and a lower elbow member, said lower elbow member being received by the other end of said elbow joining member at one end and being received by a bed support member on the other end, said bed support member being securely fastened to a stable portion of the bed frame support structure by means of a bed frame mount apparatus; and

said platform being further adapted between the mattress and box spring or between the mattress and a flat surface upon which said mattress is positioned with a bed support apparatus, said bed support apparatus further comprising a plate member which is pivotally attached to said ramp, said plate member being of sufficient length to extend from said pivotal joint to said ramp member of a sufficient length beneath said mattress to provide stability and support to said ramp member.

24. (New claim) The ramp apparatus described in claim 23 in which the surface of said ramp member is further adapted with a material which

provides traction and stability to a pet moving up or down said ramp member.

25. (New claim) The ramp apparatus described in claim 23 in which said ramp member surface is made of plastic which is roughened to provide said traction and stability.

26. (New claim) The ramp apparatus described in Claim 23 for permitting a pet to climb upon a bed, the apparatus further being adapted to remain in place without disturbing the arrangement of a comforter or other bedspread, the apparatus further comprising:

a ramp member of sufficient length to extend from a point near the surface of a bed down to the floor at an angle suitable for permitting easy movement up or down said ramp member by a small pet;

said ramp member having, at its upper end, apparatus for securing said ramp member between the mattress and box spring or between the mattress and a flat surface upon which said mattress is positioned, said apparatus further comprising a plate member which is pivotally joined to said ramp member with a pivotal joint, said plate member being of sufficient length to extend from said pivotal joint to said ramp member a sufficient length beneath said mattress to provide stability and support to said ramp member;

said ramp member further being adapted with a surface which provides traction and stability to a pet moving up or down said ramp member;

said ramp member further comprising, at its upper end, a U-shaped member along the ramp member surface, said U-shaped member having a width which is generally perpendicular to the plane of the ramp member surface and which is disposed generally downward from said ramp member surface and alongside said mattress such that the interior of said U-shaped member defines space of sufficient width to permit a bedspread or comforter to pass within and being of sufficient depth to accommodate an overhang of said bedspread or comforter;

said pivotal support member being further adapted to be fixed upon the outer surface of said U-shaped member.

27. (New claim) The ramp apparatus described in claim 23 in which said lower elbow member is adapted to snap into and out of a receiving snap member on said bed frame mounting apparatus.

28. (New claim) The ramp apparatus described in claim 27 in which the surface of said ramp member is further adapted with a material which provides traction and stability to a pet moving up or down said ramp member.

29. (New claim) The ramp apparatus described in claim 27 in which said ramp member surface is made of plastic which is roughened to provide said traction and stability.

30. (New claim) The ramp apparatus described in Claim 27 for permitting a pet to climb upon a bed, the apparatus further being adapted to remain in place without disturbing the arrangement of a comforter or other bedspread, the apparatus further comprising:

a ramp member of sufficient length to extend from a point near the surface of a bed down to the floor at an angle suitable which permits easy movement up or down said ramp member by a small pet ;

said ramp member having, and its upper end, apparatus for securing said ramp member between the mattress and box spring or between the mattress and a flat surface upon which said mattress is positioned, said apparatus further comprising a plate member which is pivotally joined to said ramp member with a pivotal joint, said plate member being of sufficient length to extend from said pivotal joint to said ramp member a sufficient length beneath said mattress to provide stability and support to said ramp member;

said ramp member further being adapted with a surface which provides traction and stability to a pet moving up or down said ramp member; and

said ramp member further comprising, at its upper end, a U-shaped member along the ramp member surface, said U-shaped member having a width which is generally perpendicular to the plane of the ramp member surface and which is disposed generally downward from said ramp member surface and alongside said mattress such that the interior of said U-shaped member defines space of sufficient width to permit a bedspread or comforter to pass within and being of sufficient depth to accommodate an overhang of said bedspread or comforter.

31. (New Claim) Ramp apparatus for permitting a pet to climb upon or down from the surface of a bed, said ramp apparatus further being adapted to remain in place without disturbing the arrangement of a comforter or other bedspread, the apparatus further comprising:

a ramp member of sufficient length to extend from a point near the surface of a bed down to the floor at an angle which permits easy movement up or down said ramp member by a small pet;

said ramp member having, and its upper end, apparatus for securing said ramp member between the mattress and box spring or between the

mattress and a flat surface upon which said mattress is positioned, said apparatus further comprising a plate member which is pivotally joined to said ramp member with a pivotal joint, said plate member being of sufficient length to extend from said pivotal joint to said ramp member a sufficient length beneath said mattress to provide stability and support to said ramp member;

said ramp member further being adapted with a surface for providing traction and stability of a pet moving up or down said ramp member; and

said ramp member further comprising, at its upper end, a U-shaped member along the ramp member surface, said U-shaped member running perpendicular to the plane of the ramp member surface and generally downward from said ramp member surface and defining a space of sufficient width to permit a bedspread or comforter to pass within and said you member being of sufficient depth to accommodate the overhang of said bedspread or comforter.

32. (New claim) The ramp apparatus described in claim 31 in which said surface of said ramp member further comprises a surface material which provides traction and stability to a pet moving up or down said ramp member.

33. (New claim) The ramp apparatus described in claim 31 in which said surface of said ramp member further comprises plastic which is roughened to provides said traction and stability.

34. (New claim) Ramp apparatus for permitting a pet to climb upon a bed, the apparatus being adapted to remain in place without disturbing the arrangement of a comforter or other bedspread, the apparatus further comprising:

a ramp member of sufficient length to extend from a point near the surface of a bed down to the floor at an angle which permits easy movement up or down said ramp member by a small pet;

said ramp member having, at its upper end, hinge apparatus for pivotally joining and securing said ramp member to a platform, said hinge apparatus allowing said ramp member to be supported by said platform,

said platform being further supported at a height near the height of an adjacent bed by three or more adjustable legs;

said platform being further adapted for support from between the mattress and box spring or between the mattress and a flat surface upon which said mattress is positioned by means of a bed support apparatus, said bed support apparatus further comprising a plate member which is attached to said platform, said plate member being of sufficient length to

extend from said pivotal joint to said ramp member of a sufficient length beneath said mattress to provide stability and support to said ramp member;

said ramp member having, and its upper end, apparatus for securing said ramp member between the mattress and box spring or between the mattress and a flat surface upon which said mattress is positioned, said apparatus further comprising a plate member which is pivotally joined to said ramp member with a pivotal joint, said plate member being of sufficient length to extend from said pivotal joint to said ramp member a sufficient length beneath said mattress to provide stability and support to said ramp member;

said ramp member further being adapted with a surface which provides traction and stability of a pet moving up or down said ramp member; and

said ramp member further comprising, at its upper end, a U-shaped member along the ramp member surface, said U-shaped member running perpendicular to the plane of the ramp member surface and, generally downward from said ramp member surface and defining a space of sufficient width to permit a bedspread or comforter to pass within and said U-shaped member being of sufficient depth to accommodate the overhang of said bedspread or comforter.

35. (New claim) The ramp apparatus described in claim 34 in which said surface of said ramp member further comprises a surface material which provides traction and stability to a pet moving up or down said ramp member.

36. (New claim) The ramp apparatus described in claim 35 in which said surface of said ramp member further comprises plastic which is roughened to provide said traction and stability.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas Price whose telephone number is 703-308-2694. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30a.m. to 5:00p.m..


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Poon can be reached on 703-308-2574. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Thomas Price
Primary Examiner GAU: 3643

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